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P17762.A06

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Yasuo NISHIDA et al.

Appl. No : 09/285,700

Filed : April 5, 1999

For : IMAGE COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND IMAGE  
COMMUNICATION METHOD



Group Art Unit: 2731

Examiner:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 15, 2000 in the above-identified application, Applicants hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following document:

A copy of an European Search Report issued on June 13, 2000 in corresponding European Application No. EP 99910801.2 is enclosed, in which the following documents were cited:

Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 1996, no. 02, published on February 29, 1996 and Japanese Patent Publication No. HEI 7-288557, published on October 31, 1995, were cited as "Y" category documents (i.e., a document that is of particular relevance if combined with another document of the same category) with respect to claims 1, 7, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 27, 31, 33, 34, 37, 40, 43, 45, and 47-52 of the European application. The Examiner also cited the Abstract as an "A" category document (i.e. a document relevant to the technological background of the invention) with respect to claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 28-30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44, and 46 of the European application;

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Patent Abstracts of Japan vol. 1996, no. 02, published on February 29, 1996 and Japanese Patent Publication No. HEI 7-288634, published on October 31, 1995, were cited as "A" category documents with respect to claims 1-52 of the European application. The Examiner indicated the Abstract as being relevant;

U.S. Patent No. 5,095,455 to SEKIGUCHI, entitled "Data Communication System Capable of Communicating On-line With Communication Terminal Equipment of a Plurality of Types", which issued on March 10, 1992, was cited as an "Y" category document with respect to claims 1, 7, 12, 16, 17, 20, 21, 24, 26, 27, 31, 33, 34, 37, 40, 43, 45 and 47-52 of the European Publication. The Examiner also cited the entire document as an "A" category document with respect to claims 2-6, 8-11, 13-15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 25, 28-30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 44 and 46 of the European Publication; and

PCT Application No. WO 98/28892 to HEIMENDINGER et al., entitled "Apparatus and Methods for Reception and Transmission of Information Using Different Protocols" published on July 2, 1998, was cited as an "A" category document with respect to claims 1-52 of the European Publication. The Examiner also cited the document as a "P" category document (i.e., a document relevant to the intermediate document) with respect to claims 1-52. The Examiner indicated the entire document as being relevant.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above-mentioned document. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and are listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the

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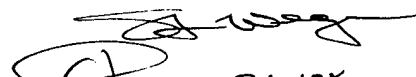
next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Thus, no fee is required to be paid in order to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

September 13, 2000  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1941 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

Respectfully submitted,  
Yasuo NISHIDA et al.

  
Reg. No. 31,438  
for  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027